

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph starting at page 18, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The dark field illumination beam path 6 in **Fig. [[1]] 2** runs from the dark field light source 7 to the object 2, to be precise firstly via the coupling-in optical arrangement 22, which couples the light of the dark field light source 7 into the optical waveguide 23. The light emerging from the optical waveguide 23 is focused by means of the focusing optical arrangement 24 into the focal region of the imaging optical arrangement 3 onto the object 2.